

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Info

FROM: Brazzaville

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 223, October 24, 4 p.m.

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Reference: Cuba: Department circulars 730 and 736 and my telegram 222.

Afternoon 24th briefly saw President recovering from illness, in presence Foreign Minister. Gave him high points quarantine proclamation (circular 730) save Secretary's briefing (circular 736). Greatly impressed by points A) major departure in Soviet policy placing missiles outside Bloc and B) fact Cubans not allowed on sites: Also by massive support of OAS. List of prohibited material (missiles, rockets, etc.) shocked both into full realization what involved. I also took occasion allude against overflight problem (circular 726 and my telegram 222) on which Tchichelle had just briefed Youlou and on which later agreed. Appointment unfortunately on too short notice for me to deliver full French text President's speech (wireless file received earlier in day but too garbled for straight reproduction) but arranged send him that and translation quarantine proclamation soonest.

Youlou thanked me for "briefing" assuring me Congo will stick by friends in troubled times. Said well understood our need for vigilance and expressed faith in Kennedy, but he and Tchichelle both very worried what may transpire next few days. Agreed meet 26th for further fill-in. Foreign Minister had received wire from Dadet describing Secretary's briefing and advising materials pouched 23rd.

Re your request for ways strengthen our hand, personal message to Youlou from Secretary or even President useful if and when possible. Same text could be drafted for

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-2- 223, October 24, 4 p.m. from Brazzaville
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